

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN NEW YORK CITY,
AT THE OFFICE OF MR. WM. MITCHELL KENDALL, 101 PARK AVENUE,
FEBRUARY 28, 1921.

A Committee meeting was held in the office of Mr. Wm. Mitchell Kendall, 101 Park Avenue, New York City, on Monday, February 28, 1921. There were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman;
Mr. Kendall;
Mr. Pope;
Mr. Greenleaf;
Mr. Fraser;

also the newly appointed members of the
Commission:

Mr. Bacon;
Mr. Ayres;
Mr. Mowbray;

and Major C. S. Ridley, Secretary and
Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL CROSS: A revised design for the Soldiers' Memorial Cross to be erected in the World War section at Arlington was submitted by Alfred Granger, architect, through the American Women's Legion. The design was approved subject to a few changes in the architectural setting. The Committee also approved the site suggested by the Graves Registration Service, and recommended that the Cross be so placed as to appear at the head of a gradual upward slope rather than on a terrace or platform. The Committee recommended that a scale model of the Cross be submitted to the Commission. (Exhibit A).
2. GRANT MONUMENT INSCRIPTION: Major Ridley brought to the attention of the Committee a sketch for the proposed inscription for the Grant Monument which is to consist simply of the word "Grant". The sketch was made by Mr. Edward Pearce Casey, architect. The sketch was disapproved as the Com-

mittee thought the letters were too narrow and ill-designed. The Committee recommended the Roman type of letter and forwarded to Mr. Casey for adoption a sketch having their approval. (Exhibit B).

3. CENTENNIAL MEDAL FOR VENEZUELA: Under date of February 25, 1921, Dr. G. A. Sherwell, of the Treasury Department, and Dr. Emanuel Sanchez, Commissioner of Venezuela, called at the office of the Commission of Fine Arts and stated that the Government of Venezuela desires a medal to commemorate the Battle of Carabobo, won by General Simon Bolivar, to which battle Venezuela accredits its independence. The celebration is to take place in June of this year. Dr. Sherwell and Dr. Sanchez requested that the Commission of Fine Arts furnish them an estimate for the production of the medal. It is desired that the obverse of the medal show General Bolivar on horseback.

The Committee gave the matter consideration and recommended that the medal be three inches in diameter, and if the Government of Venezuela would authorize the production of the medal that Anthony de Francisci be designated to make the design and model, which is to cost \$1,500.00, under the supervision of Mr. Fraser, who is to represent the Commission of Fine Arts in this matter. Dr. Sherwell was advised accordingly. (Exhibit C).

4. R.O.T.C. INSIGNIA: Mr. Fraser submitted a plaster cast for the R.O.T.C. Insignia of the War Department, made by Anthony de Francisci, which was approved by the Committee with a request that it be forwarded to Colonel Wyllie of the General Staff.

5. MILITIA INSIGNIA: Mr. Fraser submitted photographs of models made by Mr. Francisci for the Militia Insignia. The Committee directed that these be forwarded to Colonel Wyllie with a request that the War Department make a selection therefrom.

6. ERICSSON MEMORIAL: Major Ridley brought to the attention of the

Committee a foundation plan for the Ericsson Memorial. Mr. Fraser, sculptor, of the monument stated that it is desirable to set the monument at an elevation of about 2' - 6", so as to protect it from motor traffic. The Committee approved this elevation and also suggested a grass panel between the curb and the platform around the Memorial. (Exhibit D).

7. ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: Major Gibbs, landscape architect of the Graves Registration Service, submitted to the Committee designs for the proposed development of Arlington National Cemetery. These were considered in detail by the Committee and were approved in part. The Committee was agreeable to the suggestion made that the office at Arlington be removed to the amphitheatre, and that the flagpole be re-located in the vicinity.

8. MARINE WAR MEMORIAL AT BELLEAU-WOOD: The Marine Corps submitted a sketch for the proposed war memorial to be located at Belleau-Wood, representing a globe on an obelisk with an eagle resting on the globe. The Committee recommended that action with regard to this memorial be withheld pending the return of the members of the Commission who are to visit Europe in connection with the laying out of the proposed American Cemeteries in France.

9. AMERICAN CEMETERIES IN FRANCE: Mr. Moore reported that he and Mr. Wm. Mitchell Kendall and Mr. Greenleaf had secured their passports and sailing orders from the War Department for the proposed trip to France under the direction of the War Department. Colonel Pierce, Chief of the Graves Registration Service, is to have charge of the expedition and Major Gibbs, landscape architect of that office, will accompany the members. The party will leave on the United States Transport "Cambrai" on March 5. According to pending plans of the War Department there are to be four American National Cemeteries in France at the following places, the number of graves located there at present and the number proposed being -

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Suresnes	1,000	4,373
Argonne (Romagne)	23,000	15,000
Belleau-Wood	2,000	7,000
Bony (Flanders Field)	1,766	2,163

A small American Cemetery not far from London is being considered by the War Department.

Mr. Moore stated that it would be the intention of the Committee to confer with the Graves Commissioners at Paris and with the Imperial Graves Commission at London in adopting plans for the development of these cemeteries. The Committee recommended that the National Cemetery at Arlington be taken as a type for the American National Cemeteries in France.

The Committee adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Approved
Chairman

March 1, 1921.

Dear Mrs. Black:

The Commission of Fine Arts have given consideration to the revised design for the Soldiers Memorial Cross to be located in the World War Section at Arlington, and have requested me to inform you that they approve the design, but desire that a scale model of the Cross be submitted to them.

The Commission suggest that the Cross be made of Belfour pink granite, and that it be made as thin as possible, consistent with safety so far as breakage is concerned. The Commission recommend three steps to the platform and the removal of the balls shown in the design on each side of the platform. The benches should be placed on either side of the Cross, instead of at the rear.

The Commission approve the site suggested by the Graves Registration Service, in the World War Section, with an appropriate landscape setting. The design and plans are returned to you herewith.

Sincerely, yours,

(signed) C. S. Ridley,

Major, Corps of Engineers,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Mrs. W. M. Black,
2324 California Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A.

C O P Y

March 2, 1921.

Dear Mr. Casey:

With reference to your letter of February 19 with which you submitted a blueprint of the inscription for the Grant Monument, together with a sketch to show the position in the front of the pedestal, the Commission of Fine Arts request me to inform you that they prefer the Classical letter. They suggest the inclosed design.

Sincerely, yours,

(signed) C. S. Ridley,

Major, Corps of Engineers,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Edward Pearce Casey, Esq.,

149 Broadway,

New York City.

CSR:HPC
FHC

EXHIBIT B.

C O P Y

March 2, 1921.

Dear Dr. Sherwell:

The Commission of Fine Arts have given careful consideration to the request made by you and Dr. Sanchez at the time of your call at this Office on February 25th for advice in the production of the Centennial Coin for Venezuela.

The Commission recommend that the medal be three inches in diameter, gold, cast, with a privilege of having bronze copies thereof made if additional copies are desired. The design and model will cost \$1,500., and if the Government of Venezuela shall authorize the execution of the design and model at the price mentioned the Commission would recommend that Mr. Anthony de Francisci, of New York City, do the work. It is understood that the charges of the United States Mint for casting the medal will be a separate item of expense. The gold will cost about \$200. The sculptor will be asked to make two designs of the obverse, one of which shall show General Bolivar on horseback, as you suggest. The sculptor will be asked to submit the design and model to the Commission of Fine Arts for approval. He will be requested to submit preliminary sketches which will be forwarded to you and from which you may make your selection. It is understood that the final approval rests with you.

Please inform me if you wish the Commission to proceed further in this matter.

Sincerely, yours,

(signed) C. S. Ridley,

Major, Corps of Engineers,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Dr. G. A. Sherwell,

Treasury Department.

EXHIBIT C.

C O P Y

March 2, 1921.

Dear Mr. Fraser:

I have to inform you that the Commission of Fine Arts has approved the arrangement of raising the platform around the Ericsson Memorial on a terrace about 2' - 6" high. The Commission has also approved the grass panel between the curb and the platform around the Memorial.

Sincerely, yours,

(signed) C. S. Ridley,

Major, Corps of Engineers,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

James E. Fraser, Esq.,
3 Macdougall Alley,
New York City.

CSR:HPC
FHC

EXHIBIT D.

